

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 1, insert above line 1, insert--Priority Claim

The present application claims priority on European Patent Application 03254300.1 filed July 7, 2003.--

On page 1, above line 1, insert--Field of the Invention--

The present invention relates to a method of expanding a tubular element having a first portion to be expanded to a first inner diameter and a second portion to be expanded to a second inner diameter larger than the first inner diameter. ~~Expandable tubular elements find increased application in the industry of wellbore construction, for example in applications whereby the tubular element, after installation in the wellbore, is radially expanded to form a wellbore casing or liner. Typically the wellbore is drilled in sections, whereby after drilling each wellbore section a casing or liner is lowered in unexpanded state into the newly drilled wellbore section and subsequently radially expanded. Optionally the expanded casing / liner can be cemented in the wellbore by pumping a layer of cement between the casing / liner either before or after the expansion process.~~

On page 1, above line 6, insert--Background of the Invention

~~Expandable tubular elements find increased application in the industry of wellbore construction, for example, in applications whereby the tubular element, after installation in the wellbore, is radially expanded to form a wellbore casing or liner. Typically the wellbore is drilled in sections, whereby after drilling each wellbore section a casing or liner is lowered in unexpanded state into the newly drilled wellbore section and subsequently radially expanded. Optionally the expanded casing / liner can be cemented in the wellbore by pumping a layer of cement between the casing / liner either before or after the expansion process.~~

Paragraph on line 18 of page 1, ending on line 2 of page 2, has been amended as follows:

~~-- Generally it will be required that subsequent casing or liner sections are interconnected in a manner that a fluid tight seal is obtained at the interconnection. This can be achieved, for example, by creating an overlap between subsequent sections of casing or liners such that an upper end portion of a lower casing section extends into a lower end portion of an upper casing section, either with or without a sleeve of deformable~~

material there-between. Such overlap requires that the end portion of the tubular element into which the other tubular element extends, is expanded to a relatively large diameter. However, until now no reliable expansion method for achieving such result is available.--

On page 2, delete line 3-8

On page 2, above line 8, insert--Summary of the Invention--

Paragraph on line 9 of page 2 has been amended as follows:

~~—In accordance with the invention there is provided The present inventions include~~ a method of expanding a tubular element having a first portion to be expanded to a first inner diameter and a second portion to be expanded to a second inner diameter larger than the first inner diameter, the method comprising:

- a) arranging an expandable sleeve of selected wall thickness in said second tubular element portion;
- b) positioning an expander in the tubular element;
- c) operating the expander so as to expand said first tubular element portion to the first inner diameter, and operating the expander so as to expand the sleeve to an inner diameter substantially equal to the second inner diameter minus double the wall thickness of the sleeve; and
- d) retrieving the sleeve from the tubular element.--

On page 2, delete line 24-32.

On page 3, delete line 1-24.

On page 3, above line 25, insert--Brief Description of the Drawings--

On page 4, above line 14 insert--Detailed Description of the Invention--

On page 13, above line 1, insert --We claim:--